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THE BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *LIMOSA LIMOSA* IN UGANDA

Margaret Carswell

On 27 November 1975 a Black-tailed Godwit was seen at Mabamba Swamp on the west side of Etebbe peninsula (32°20'E., 00°04'N.). The bird was approached closely and seen well with binoculars, both standing and in flight, and the following field notes were made:

Large, compared to the other waders present; very long straight bill, dark in colour, reddish at the base; legs blackish grey; upperparts fairly pale greyish buff; below paler off-white. In flight: white upper tail coverts and upper part of the tail, the white not going up the back; fairly broad black band near the end of the tail; axillaries white; white wing bar.

Mann (1976) states that the Black-tailed Godwit is recorded, but with no details, from Ruwenzori National Park (formerly Queen Elizabeth National Park) and from Kaberega National Park (formerly Murchison Falls National Park).

The present record has appeared in the *Uganda Society Bird Newsletter* No. 57 of January 1976.

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EXCEPTIONAL NUMBERS OF BLACK-TAILED GODWITS

LIMOSA LIMOSA WINTERING AT LAKE NAIVASHA DURING 1976/77

B.S. Meadows

Backhurst, Britton & Mann (1973) described the Black-tailed Godwit as a regular visitor in very small numbers to inland localities in Kenya and Tanzania; the largest party recorded was a flock of 15-20 birds at Suguta Naibor (0°40'N., 36°37'E.). There is only one definitive record for Uganda (Carswell 1977).

In the northern winter of 1976/77, Black-tailed Godwits were present continuously from November to March at Lake Naivasha in hitherto unprecedented numbers for a locality south of the equator. Monthly counts, which I made in the company of T. Kallqvist, along a transect of the northern beach of Crescent Island (all at midday) are as follows: date of visit in brackets: August (8), 0; September (29), 0; October no count; November (30), 5; December (30), 48; January (24), 56; February (16), 15; March (21), 2; April (28), no godwits seen.